

MABEL BECHTEL'S MURDER

Evidence That Allentown Girl Was Slain in Own Home.

BROTHER AND FIANCE ARRESTED

Girl's Skull Crushed by Kilians—Mother Discovers Body of Pretty Silk Weaver, Mabel Bechtel, Whose Slaying Left It in the Alleyway in Allentown, Pa.—Ballet in Her Brain.

Allentown, Pa.—Concealed in a passageway adjoining her home the body of Mabel H. Bechtel, a pretty silk weaver, eighteen years old, was found by her mother. The head was crushed as if struck by a blunt instrument and had a bullet through the brain.

At the ghastly discovery the girl's mother realized the purpose of the visit to her home during the night of two strange men, who evidently had carried the body to the place where it was found.

The girl was a great favorite among her friends, and was engaged to be married to Alfred Eckstein, a cigar operator, employed in Allentown. David Weisenberger was his rival. The last time the girl was seen alive she was in company with Weisenberger, with whom she went out driving.

On Monday morning Weisenberger called at the Bechtel home and asked Mabel to go for a drive. That was the last time Mrs. Bechtel saw her daughter alive. As the girl did not return in the evening her mother retired early without waiting for her.

During the night she heard the sound of a carriage within a short distance of her house. She arose and saw from a window two men alight from the car and carry out a bundle which they placed in the entrance to the alley.

She thought nothing of the occurrence until morning, when she found her daughter's shoes, hat and coat in the dining room, but no trace of the girl. She searched the house, and, directed by the incident of the previous night, looked in the entrance to the alley.

There she saw the body of her murdered daughter. Dreadful as was the sight, she retained her presence of mind, and informed her neighbors and the police.

The police discovered what they regard as almost conclusive evidence that the girl was killed in her own home. This evidence was in the shape of blood stains found on the wall and floor of a room sometimes occupied by the girl, and of a small hatchet with the handle broken in a bureau in the garret. On the hatchet were some stains which the police believe are blood stains.

The police arrested on suspicion Alfred Eckstein, the girl's lover, and her brother, Tom Bechtel. They were held in \$1000 bail at police headquarters. Both have asserted that they know nothing about the crime, as have the entire Bechtel family, all the members of which have been submitted to the "sweating process" at various times. David Weisenberger, the cigar salesman who gave himself up to the police, has been practically eliminated from the mystery. His alibi seemed to be perfect, and he had no trouble in getting \$1000 bail.

THREE DIE PLAYING WITH FIRE.

Children Fascinated by Flames in Divers Ways.

Pottsville, Pa.—While Mrs. William Bernheiser's back was turned for a moment, Mary, her six-year-old daughter, poked a stick into the grate of the kitchen stove and withdrew it flaming, calling attention to her pretty light. Her clothing caught fire and in a few minutes she was a blackened corpse. The mother was seriously burned while trying to save her daughter.

Allentown, Pa.—Annie, the five-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Heil, of Standard, was burned to death at her home. Annie got her father's pipe and tried to imitate him in lighting it. The match set fire to the pipe and the little girl rushed out of the house and along a lane to a field, where her parents were working. Before she got there she fell exhausted, and before her parents could reach her she had been burned to a crisp.

SHOT AND KILLED HIS SISTER.

Each Playfully Pointed a Gun at the Other and One Happened to Be Loaded.

Ogdensburg, N. Y.—Flora Porter, fifteen years of age, while handling an air gun at Walden, playfully pointed it in the direction of her brother, exclaiming: "I will shoot you."

A loaded rifle, the property of a hired man in the family, was resting against the house near by, and the boy, catching the spirit of his sister's fun, seized the weapon, and pointing at his sister, answered, "I will shoot you, too!"

As he spoke the rifle was accidentally discharged, the bullet entering the body of the girl, killing her instantly.

John E. Russell Dead.

John E. Russell died at his home in Leicester, Mass., of heart disease. John E. Russell was born at Greenfield, Franklin County, Mass., in 1834. When Mr. Cleveland was elected first to fill the Presidency he declined successively the portfolios of Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy. He was twice the candidate of the Democratic party for Governor, but was defeated.

A Record Celery Crop.

Kalamazoo, Mich., the centre of the great celery growing region of this country, expects to ship not less than 7,000,000 bunches of celery, which will have a value of \$1,000,000. This celery is grown on 5000 acres of reclaimed swamp land, which is worth as high as \$800 an acre. The crop of 1903 is the largest on record.

Large Shipment of Farming Tools.

Already this year America has shipped 80,000 tons of agricultural implements into Russia.

Newspaper Brevities.

A heavy fall of snow is reported in Western Minnesota.

A Central Trades Council has been formed at Hoquiam, Wash.

The Rev. Dr. Pentecost appealed for a \$100,000 fund to build a Presbyterian Church at Manila.

Emperor William of Germany will erect a monument to the memory of Krupp, the gunmaker.

The Zeigler North Pole expedition failed to reach Franz Josef Land, and another attempt will be made in the autumn.

DOGS RUN DOWN SUSPECT

Jaggers Arrested and Charged With Shooting Mrs. Bevans.

Lynching Foiled by New Jersey Sheriff—Mad Dash Over Mountains to Save Prisoner's Life—Safe in Jail.

Port Jervis, N. Y.—Sheriff Andrews and Deputy Sheriff Thompson arrested George Jaggers, whom the authorities have had under suspicion for several days in connection with the murder of Mrs. Victor E. Bevans and the shooting of her husband at their home near Bevans, N. J. Jaggers was at his home at the time of the arrest. He was taken to the jail at Newton, the county seat of Sussex, after a mad dash over the mountains.

It was to Jaggers' house that the bloodhounds led the chase. The Sheriff, Prosecutor Huston and several other county officials held a long conference at Newton, and it is supposed that the arrest was decided upon at that time. The arrest was made quietly, and the prisoner was at once taken from the neighborhood in a carriage, carefully guarded. Feeling against the suspect ran high, and the neighbors of the wounded farmer and his dead wife were becoming more and more restless and impatient at the delay. It is said that Mr. Bevans had asked the Sheriff to refrain from making an arrest if possible until after the funeral.

The funeral of Mrs. Bevans was held at the Bevans home. It was well attended. The farmhouse was not large enough to hold the people, and many stood outdoors. Jaggers' absence attracted much attention. He said later that he was unable to attend on account of his wife's illness.

Mr. Bevans is recovering from his wounds, and though still weak, rose from his bed for the first time. He sat in a chair throughout the service. Jaggers lived near Hainsville, about a mile and a half from the place of the murder. He has been in this neighborhood only a short time. He was one of the first at the Bevans home the morning after the murder was committed. It is supposed the motive for the crime was robbery. Jaggers broke down and wept when the Sheriff placed him under arrest, but he soon recovered his composure and refused to answer any questions except to maintain his innocence.

The Sheriff alleges that he is in possession of facts in connection with Jaggers' career, before he moved into this quiet farming community, that will convict him against him. A crowd of fully a thousand gathered about the jail in Newton when the prisoner arrived. Twenty armed men formed a cordon around the carriage containing him, and escorted it to the jail. There was considerable disorder, but no outbreak.

PATRICK LOSES RICE MILLIONS.

Will Urged by Condemned Murderer Held to Be Forgery.

Albany, N. Y.—The Court of Appeals placed a final negative upon the attempts of Lawyer Albert T. Patrick to obtain the vast fortune of the deceased millionaire, William M. Rice, for whose murder he was under sentence of death in Sing Sing Prison, by affirming the decision of the lower courts, which held that a forgery of the alleged will of Mr. Rice, which Patrick urged as superseding that admitted to probate. The will of Mr. Rice, thus sustained, makes no mention of Patrick, the bulk of the estate, estimated at \$4,000,000 or more, being bequeathed to the proposed "William M. Rice Institute for the Advancement of Literature, Science and Art," of Houston, Texas.

DOWIE REALIZES HIS DEFEAT.

Prophet Prepares to Quit New York—His Followers Disheartened.

New York City.—No definite action was decided upon at the meeting held by John Alexander Dowie and his cabinet to determine whether the crusade for the regeneration of the city had been a failure. After the meeting one of Dowie's overseers announced that no decision had been reached as to whether the "restoration host" would immediately take a quiet exit from New York. Every action and word of the "prophet" indicates that he realizes that he has met defeat. Companies of Dowieites continue their proselyting tours in the city with at least one outward appearance of courage. Most of them individually, however, are declared to be sick of the entire visitation.

American Footwear in Favor Abroad.

The United States Consul at Vienna makes a report of the establishment in that city of a store for the sole purpose of dealing in American footwear. The subject of the introduction of American shoes in Europe has attracted a great deal of attention lately for the reason that such strong efforts have been made to keep them out. American shoes have been sold in Vienna for several years with rapidly increasing sales, but they have been handled by dealers and sold side by side with the domestic goods. The opening of this store is particularly significant for the reason that shoemaking is one of the great Austrian industries.

"Popcorn King" Makes Big Sale.

John Fraley, of Alexandria, Ind., who is known as the "Popcorn King," made recently the largest sale of the burst recently that has ever been recorded, and the sale was made by telephone. Chicagoans were the purchasers, and 30,000 pounds were sold, to be delivered at once.

Prosperity Depends on Present Crisis.

Controller Hitecley told the American Bankers' Association that prosperity will continue if the present situation is calmly and courageously met.

Western Butcher Trust Abandoned.

The proposed trust of Western retail butchers has been abandoned as impracticable.

Admits Land Frauds.

Secretary Hitchcock admitted that there had been extensive land frauds in the West, but said the reports had been greatly exaggerated.

The Sporting World.

Jeffries says he thinks very well of a trip to Australia.

E. R. Thomas is planning an invasion of the English turf.

Dick Welles is the speediest thoroughbred of the year.

The Boston baseball players each got \$1182.34 for winning the championship.

Athletic relations have been resumed between Lawrenceville School and Andover Academy.

The Intercollegiate Lawn Tennis Association is planning to send a challenge to Oxford and Cambridge.

CONTROL OF ERIE CANAL

Federal Courts Have Jurisdiction, Supreme Court Declares.

CANALBOATS SAME AS SHIPS

Four Discontented Justices Declare the Position an Undue Expansion of Federal Authority—Sweeping Decision Which Vests Supervision of Inland Waterways in the National Government.

Washington, D. C.—The Supreme Court, by a divided bench, has declared that the Erie Canal, although built by the State of New York, and wholly within its borders, is under the maritime jurisdiction of the Federal Government. Chief Justice Fuller and Justices Harlan, Brewer and Peckham dissented.

The controversy arose over repairs to a canalboat. The owner, Mrs. Clara Perry, in the suit brought to enforce the lien contended that the New York statute under which it was brought was an infringement upon the Admiralty jurisdiction of the Federal Government. The Federal Government contended that the canalboat was a vessel of the United States, and that the lien therefore could not be enforced.

The Supreme Court of New York denied this contention and upheld the statute, whereupon Mrs. Perry appealed to the Supreme Court of the United States on constitutional grounds.

The opinion of the court was delivered by Justice Brown. The argument that the jurisdiction of the Government did not apply to artificial waterways, he said, had been decided in several cases, both in this country and Canada. There was no question, he asserted, as to the Federal jurisdiction over the great lakes and it would be ridiculous to deny its jurisdiction over, for instance, the St. Clair Canal, which connects two of the lakes and was but a mile long, solely on the ground that it was an artificial waterway.

As to the contention that maritime jurisdiction did not apply to canalboats Justice Brown said the means of propulsion was not material, it having already been decided by the Supreme Court that it applied to all kinds of vessels except rowboats, which were excluded. That the fact that the Erie Canal were drawn by horses did not matter, for the enlargement of the canal was in contemplation, when it would be propelled by steam, and it would, of course, be futile to hold that jurisdiction did not apply now and then change that decision.

The dissenting opinion was delivered by Justice Brewer. Until 1840 the Supreme Court had held, he said, that Federal maritime jurisdiction extended only to tide water. With the use of steam, however, the limits of navigation were extended to include the waters which could by that means be reached by ocean vessels. The decision in this case extended it further, so that it included not only ocean commerce but also the inland navigation upon waters connected in any way with the ocean, including waters wholly within the boundaries of a State.

The Erie Canal, said Justice Brewer, was built and owned by the State of New York, and the Federal Government could not, of course, interfere to restrict the size of the canal, the depth of its water or the construction of bridges, and how, then, could it interfere in a case like that at bar?

In his opinion the grant to the nation's Government over Admiralty and maritime matters was in furtherance of commerce between the United States and foreign nations and designed to secure uniformity in respect thereto, and did not extend to the control made in respect to vessels which were incapacitated from foreign commerce designed and used exclusively for all local traffic within a State.

MCB COSTS A COUNTY \$5000.

Heirs of C. W. Mitchell, Lynched in Urbana, Ohio, in 1897, Get That Sum.

Chicago.—The proceeds of the first verdict under the Ohio law making county liable to damages to the estate of a person who is killed by a mob within the county have been distributed to heirs in Cook County. The beneficiaries are Mrs. Lillian Brown and Mrs. Daisy Paine, of this city, sisters of Charles W. Mitchell, who was lynched at Urbana, Champaign County, Ohio, on June 4, 1897. Each secures one-fourth of the damages of \$5000. The remainder is given to two Ohio heirs by the courts of that State.

Admiral Bowles Quits Navy.

Rear-Admiral Francis T. Bowles, Chief of the Bureau of Construction and Repair, has resigned from the Navy to become President of the Fore River Engine and Shipbuilding Company, of Quincy, Mass. Constructor W. L. Capps was selected to succeed him.

New Counterfeit Note Discovered.

The United States Secret Service has announced the discovery of a new five-dollar counterfeit note on the First National Bank of Lynn, Mass. It is a photographic reproduction and identical with the one discovered on the Miller's River National Bank of Athol, Mass., a few days ago.

French Bark Sounded.

The French bark Savorard, of St. Malo, laden with salt, has been wrecked in the Bay of Audierne. Thirty-one members of the crew, the wife of the captain and four other women were drowned.

Cripple Gets Check For \$35,000.

Albert Wadley, a New York florist, living at White Plains, who sued the New York Central Company for \$100,000 damages for injuries he received in the Park avenue tunnel wreck, has settled with the corporation for \$35,000. Mr. Wadley will be a cripple for life.

Defenses Half Completed.

General George L. Gillespie, chief of army engineers, in his annual report says the United States seacoast defenses are about half completed.

Minor Mention.

The price of silver has again advanced.

Canadians chafe under the Alaskan boundary decision.

The French sardine crop for the year is a failure.

An alliance between France and Italy is talked of in official circles in Rome.

Six of the largest toothpick plants in the country have formed a merger.

Pressed for money to cover bets lost on the races, Albert Joerdn, a letter carrier at Chicago, Ill., is under arrest for thieving from the mails.

ARMENIAN LEADER SLAIN

London Excited by Development of Revolutionaries' Feud.

Sagouni, Revolutionary Leader, the Victim—Slaying From America, Had Lived in New York.

London, Eng.—Sagouni, President of the Armenian refugee society of London, and a well-known revolutionary leader, was murdered at Nunhead, a suburb of London. As he was entering the gate of the garden attached to his residence a man rushed across the road and fired three pistol shots at him at close range. Two of the bullets took effect.

Sagouni drew a revolver, intending to defend himself, but before he could use it his assailant fired a fourth shot, which struck the heart, whereupon Sagouni fell dead.

The murderer fled, leaving a felt hat and a revolver. Both of these articles had marks showing that they had been purchased in New York.

The crime is believed to be a sequel of differences that have existed among the Armenian refugees residing in London for the past four years. These refugees are divided into two factions, the Hentchagists and the Alfarists. After their original dispute these factions became reconciled, but in October, 1902, the Alfarists collected \$20,000 in the United States and the quarrel between the factions was renewed.

The Hentchagists accused the Alfarists of appropriating the money to their own use. As a result of the ill feeling engendered by this charge a member of the Alfarist faction recently stabbed a Hentchagist on a street at Lausanne, Switzerland.

Sagouni was sent to Switzerland to investigate this crime, and while returning to England on a Channel packet he met a man who answered the description of the Hentchagist assailant. In a recent report on this affair Sagouni described this assailant. This description tallies with that of the man who shot him.

The Hentchagists take their name from hentchak, meaning tongs, the name given to the newspaper they publish. The Alfarists get their title from the Armenian word for revolutionary leader Alfar, who is said to have his headquarters in New York.

Armenians in New York City profess considerable loyalty to the national squabbles among their countrymen in London, which are supposed to have led up to the murder of Sagouni. The Armenian colony is not large in New York. One of its members has said that there were less than 3000 Armenians in Greater New York and the neighboring New Jersey cities.

GAMBLING LEADS TO THEFT.

Directly Responsible For 3212 of 4152 Cases Recorded This Year.

Chicago, Ill.—It is believed that the race tracks and poolrooms are responsible for the many embezzlements and larcenies daily reported to the police and the detection bureau. An investigation of the records of the year show that many of the smaller thefts are traceable directly to attempts to pick winning horses. Embezzlers of the larger sums, as a general rule, are gamblers in stock. The heaviest bettors in the racing ring are professional gamblers. Here is the record:

Embezzlements in the United States recorded since January 1, 1903, 4152. Chief cause, gambling, 3212, living, 3450; extravagant living, 1875. Embezzlements in Chicago since January 1, 114. Charged to gambling, 103. That hundreds of embezzlements are caused by betting on horse races is admitted, but the police declare that not one in a hundred is ever prosecuted.

The big firms say they cannot afford to prosecute employees who steal small sums. They discharge the dishonest man and bend their efforts toward keeping the others honest.

Many firms employ detectives who watch their men and any one seen betting on races is discharged before the necessity or the opportunity to steal presents itself.

MRS. BURDICK GETS PROPERTY.

Decision Renders Void Provisions of Murdered Man's Will.

Buffalo, N. Y.—Surrogate Marcus handed down a decision by which the widow of Edwin L. Burdick will gain full control of the property left by her husband.

Under the terms of the will drawn up by Burdick a short time before he was murdered, his three children were to be placed in the hands of three guardians, and his estate was to be managed by four executors for the benefit of the children. This clause of the will was decided in Burdick's favor. By the decision the most important clause in the instrument, cutting off Mrs. Burdick without a cent, is declared void.

\$50,000 FOR WRECK VICTIM.

Woman Gets Record Verdict Against the New York Central.

White Plains, N. Y.—The trial of the suit of Catherine Reddy, of Yonkers, against the New York Central Railroad for \$100,000 damages ended before Supreme Court Judge Gaynor and a jury in a verdict for \$50,000 against the railroad company.

Reddy was carried into court on a chair by attendants. She was badly injured in a wreck on the New York Central at Fancher, a town near Niagara Falls.

The verdict is said to be the largest ever rendered in this State to a woman for railroad injuries.

Charles T. Saxton Dead.

Charles Terry Saxton, of Clyde, former Lieutenant-Governor of New York State and Judge of the Court of Claims, died in the City Hospital, Rochester, N. Y., from what the physicians describe as an incurable organic disease. He was born in Clyde, N. Y., July 28, 1846.

Successful Rebellion in San Domingo.

Rebels captured after sharp fighting the town of Santiago, in San Domingo. The revolutionary movement in favor of Jimenes is spreading.

Shot at President Diaz.

While President Diaz of Mexico was attending a festival at Guanajuato a man jumped from the crowd and fired five times at him. None of the shots took effect. The assailant was captured. He gave his name as Elias Tusciano, and declared that he did not intend to harm the President, but was carried away with enthusiasm and admiration.

Postoffice Robbery in Michigan.

The postoffice at Escanaba, Mich., was robbed and the safe was dynamited. About \$1000 in stamps and cash was taken. The robbers escaped.

NOTED LAWYER ACCUSED

i. L. Blair, Counsel For World's Fair, Charged With Embezzling.

FORGED NOTES FOR \$400,000

Faces Serious Charges—Son of the Noted Missouri General Falls in a Fit and Collapses While Making Emphatic Denial—One-Time Employee in Role of Accuser.

St. Louis, Mo.—Overwhelmed by charges that have been laid before the Grand Jury, naming him as a forger, an embezzler, a robber of his relatives and a man who has led a double life of startling depravity, Attorney James L. Blair, one of the most prominent men of St. Louis, fell unconscious and frothing at the mouth while talking to reporters, in a most serious state of collapse.

"Judge" Blair, as he is known, was until recently counsel for and a director of the World's Fair, and one of the most prominent men identified with that national enterprise. Rumors affecting his integrity caused him to resign, but not until revelations of his alleged enormous thefts were made public.

The story of Blair's alleged Jekyll and Hyde existence was told to the Grand Jury by James T. Roberts, who was formerly a confidential associate of Blair. In the long list of charges are assertions that Blair had victimized Dick Brothers & Co., bankers, of Philadelphia, his relatives, to the extent of \$340,000, and that he had stolen \$63,000 from the funds of the Blow estate.

The startling accusations against Blair have caused a tremendous sensation in St. Louis, where he was regarded as a man of the highest integrity and lofty purpose. He was the idol of a certain reform element and a favorite lecturer before Y. M. C. A. meetings, his favorite subject being "Business Integrity." The charges made before the Grand Jury recite that while Blair was making these lectures he was planning deeds of trust, embezzling trust funds, robbing his friends and relatives and breaking promises to reform.

Blair has always been one of the most strenuous fighters for the betterment of municipal conditions. He raised a fund of \$15,000 to aid Circuit Attorney Folk in his battle with the Board of Lady Managers of the World's Fair, President of the Morning Choral and the Women's Club, and likewise a social and musical leader. They have lived for several years in an elaborate house at Kirkwood, a suburb and have entertained extensively.

Roberts says that he first discovered irregularities in Blair's business through an account of about \$2000 with Miss Blanchard, a client of Dick Brothers & Co., in Philadelphia.

Roberts says that his first opportunity to investigate other branches of business transacted for the Dick firm came when, in a search for other papers in Blair's safe, a bundle of envelopes came into his possession. The envelopes, Roberts declares, bore the names of persons supposed to have borrowed money from Dick Brothers & Co. In the envelopes, he says, he found cancelled interest notes, portions of certificates of title and correspondence.

Investigation convinced Roberts, he declared, that the loans were fictitious, the certificates of title spurious and the notarial and Recorder's seal forged. It is stated that the embezzlements have been going on for ten years, and that the money was used to pay interest on forged notes, premiums on life insurance policies and for extravagant living.

Mr. Blair is the son of the late Frank P. Blair, one of the greatest, a justly highly honored citizen of Missouri ever produced. His public work has always appeared to be of the highest character. In the political reformations which have been going on in St. Louis he was an important figure.

A NEW BRITISH AMBASSADOR.

Sir Mortimer Durand Succeeds Sir Michael Herbert.

London.—Sir Henry Mortimer Durand has been appointed British Ambassador to the United States to succeed the late Sir Michael Herbert. His appointment astonishes diplomatic circles, since Sir Mortimer, as he is called, having dropped the Henry, is not a Foreign Office man.

He was imported into the diplomatic service from the Indian civil service, where he attained a high position. Sir Mortimer was a protégé of the late Lord Salisbury, and his appointment of his diplomatic skill was based on his conduct with Russia in the delicate matter of the Afghan boundary delimitation.

His father was an eminent general in India, but Durand has none of the social pull which tells so largely in determining big diplomatic appointments. He has often expressed a great liking for Americans. He has a wife and daughter.

Copper Mines Shut Down.

By a decision of a Montana district court the Amalgamated Copper Company is prevented from collecting dividends from the Boston and Montana and the Tarratt mining companies, which the Amalgamated owns. The holding company at once ordered all its mines and smelters in Montana shut down, throwing 12,000 men out of employment.

Elmira Reformatory Head Out.

Dr. Frank W. Robertson has resigned the office of Superintendent of the State Reformatory in Elmira, N. Y.

Ran 130 Miles an Hour.

An electric car in the high-speed experiments held on the Narienfeld-Zossen line, at Berlin, Germany, attained the speed of 130.25 miles per hour. The last previous record was 127 miles, but the engineers say they hope to attain a speed of 140 miles per hour.

"Mother" Stewart Dead.

"Mother" Stewart, a noted temperance crusader and one of the organizers of the W. C. T. U., is dead at Chicago.

Elopers Caught in Vancouver.

Clarence H. Leonard, who ten days ago left East Orange, N. J., with \$10,000 of his employer's funds and eloped with his sweetheart, Katharine Miller, was arrested at Vancouver, British Columbia, with the girl, whom he had married. Leonard had \$4000, while the girl carried five \$1000-bills. They were registered under the name of Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Fay.

Indictments Against Beavers Voted.

Four of the five indictments against George W. Beavers, alleging complicity in postal frauds, were voted by Judge Holt in the Federal Court.

SHOT THROUGH A WINDOW

Farmers Wife Killed and Husband Wounded Near Port Jervis.

Half-Conscious, Bevans Drags Himself to Telephone and Rings Until He Drops Senseless—Neighbors Rush to Aid.

Port Jervis, N. Y.—The country for miles around Bevans, N. Y., is thoroughly excited over the murder of Mrs. Victor Bevans and the wounding of her husband at their home, and hundreds of persons have arrived at the house offering assistance to the stricken family.

At the time they were shot, about 9 o'clock p. m., Mr. and Mrs. Bevans sat by the kitchen fire, in a direct line with the window, the husband with an arm over the back of a chair and his back toward the fire. Two charges came through the window pane and lodged in Mr. Bevans' arm and face and in his wife's head and shoulders. Mrs. Bevans died next morning, but her husband is improving. There is no known motive for the deed. Mr. Bevans had no enemies. He is a sturdy, prosperous farmer and a member of a family of 150 years' standing in the valley.

Bloodhounds were put on the tracks leading from the house. The dogs followed the tracks by a circuitous route to the house of a certain man and thence direct back to the Bevans house. This man is under suspicion, as his reputation is said to be not of the best and he has appeared much agitated since the murder.

It is believed that the murderer fired from a rest, as both of his victims were hit in exactly the same place. The window glass was broken in two places in such a manner as to indicate that the gun was swept from left to right. Both holes in the glass are on the same level.

Woven into the tragedy of the lonely manor house when Bevans and his wife were shot by the assassin lurking in the darkness outside their home, is the extraordinary part played by the telephone which silently notified the neighbors,